NEWS RELEASE

PROPERTY TAX BILLS HAVE BEEN MAILED

Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector Jenine Windeshausen announced that the property tax bills for the 2004-2005 fiscal year have been mailed. Windeshausen indicated that there are 139,952 tax bills for taxes and voter approved special assessments, and charges totaling \$486.1 million.

The first installment of taxes are due November 1, 2004, and will become delinquent if not paid by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 10, 2004; thereafter a 10% penalty will be added. The second installment is due on February 1, 2005, and will become delinquent if not paid by 5 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2005; thereafter a 10% penalty as well as a \$10 cost will be added. Both installments may be paid when the first installment is due. Pursuant to state law, payments remaining unpaid after June 30, 2005 accrue additional penalties at the rate of one and a half percent per month, or eighteen percent annually.

Windeshausen noted that an automated phone system is available 24 hours a day to assist taxpayers and those with Internet access can view tax information online at www.placer.ca.gov/tax. Mailed payments must be postmarked by the delinquent date to avoid penalties. Anyone with a checking account may pay by virtual check over the Internet at www.placer.ca.gov/tax. Payments may also be made in person at the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office, 2976 Richardson Drive, Auburn, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., holidays excepted. For added convenience, a drive-up deposit box in the front of the building as well as one in the lobby of the Tax Collector's Office are also available.

Again, this year the property tax statements will include an insert for voluntary contributions to four Trust Funds. Last year's contributions totaled \$22,574.00, with \$4,759.17 going to the Trust Fund for Animals, \$5,963.17 going to the Open Space and Agricultural Preservation Trust Fund, \$6,099.16 going to the Children's Trust Fund, and \$5,752.50 going to the Library Trust Fund.

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